PRS infer-red system user guide

1 What is it?

Using infrer-red wireless clickers, students can answer questions and record their responses with a simple click of a button on keypads.

2 What is provided?

You will be provided with student handsets, infrared receiver boxes with stands, power supply and all the cabling required to connect the receivers to a PC.

A standard pack will include 2x sensors.

3 Installing the software

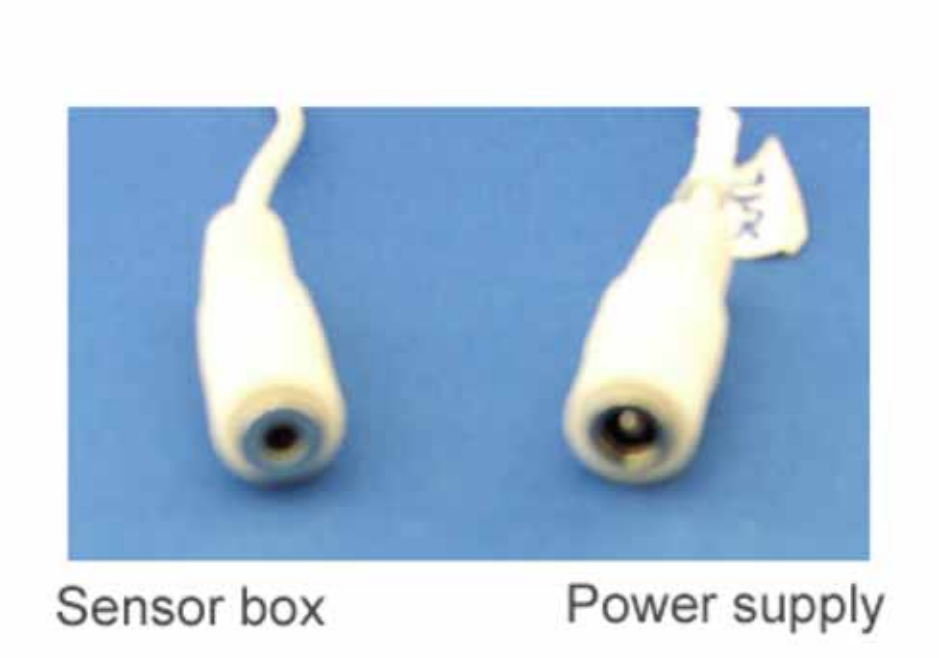
Before you can progress you must have the PRS software installed on the PC that you are going to use with the system. This can be obtained from
http://www.interwritelearning.com/products/prs/infrared/detail.html
You will need to register your details before you can download the software.

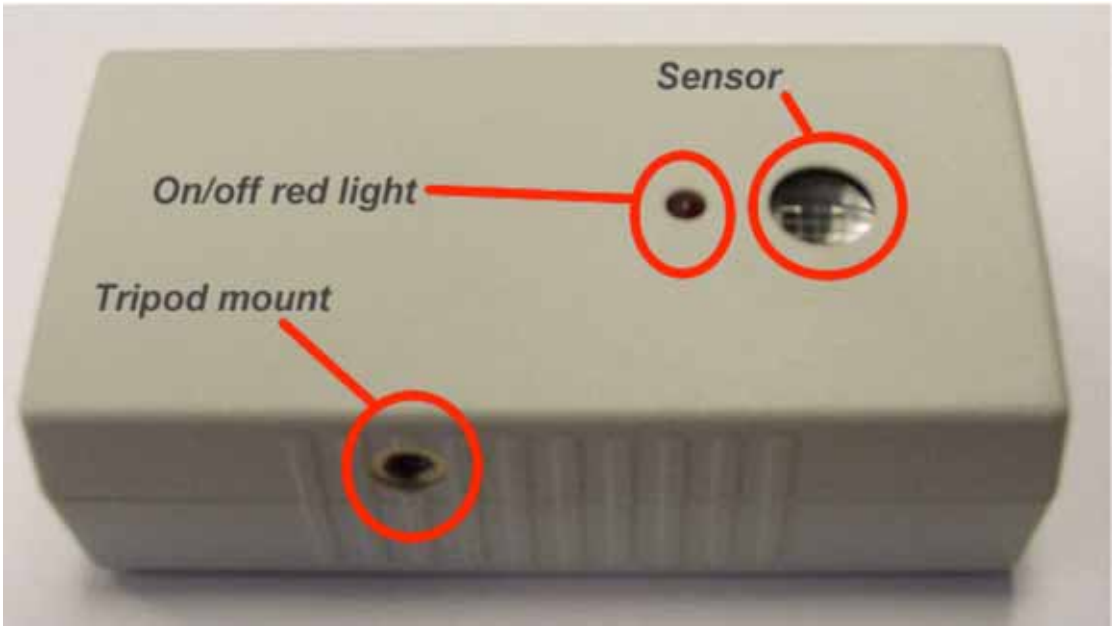
Open the download file and follow the instructions.

4 Setting up the hardware

Firstly fix sensor boxes to tripods and extend legs with sensors pointing towards the audience. Plug the first cable into the OUT socket on the first sensor and plug the other end into the IN socket on the second sensor. Take the second cable and put one end in the OUT socket of the second sensor and attach the other end to the Powered serial connector. The serial connector is powered by an AC adapter and connects to the PC running the PRS software (a USB adaptor is also available for mac users and PC's without serial ports – additional drivers are required). When powered up the sensor red lights flash and then remain solid.

The serial lead fits into the back of the pc. Two leads come of this one is conectod to the cable from the out socket on the sensor box and the other is connected to a power supply

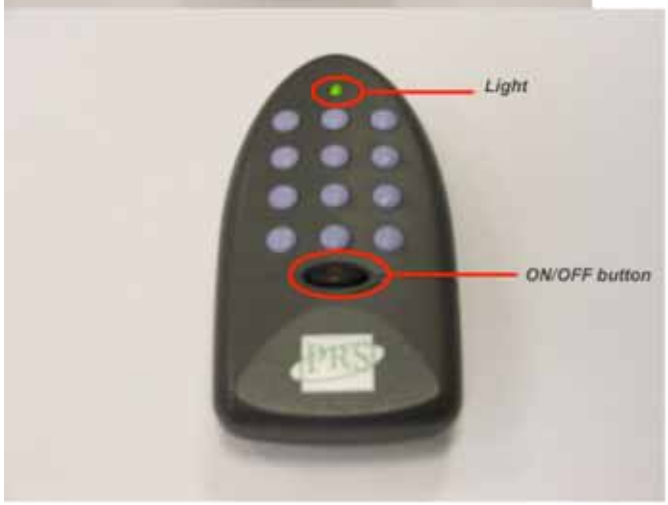




The out feed goes to the serial adapter. If you decide to chain sensors make sure that the feed from a sensor goes into the in socket (two sensors is the standard setup but more can be connected).

It is best to have the sensors set up beside the screen that will be displaying student results.

Handsets



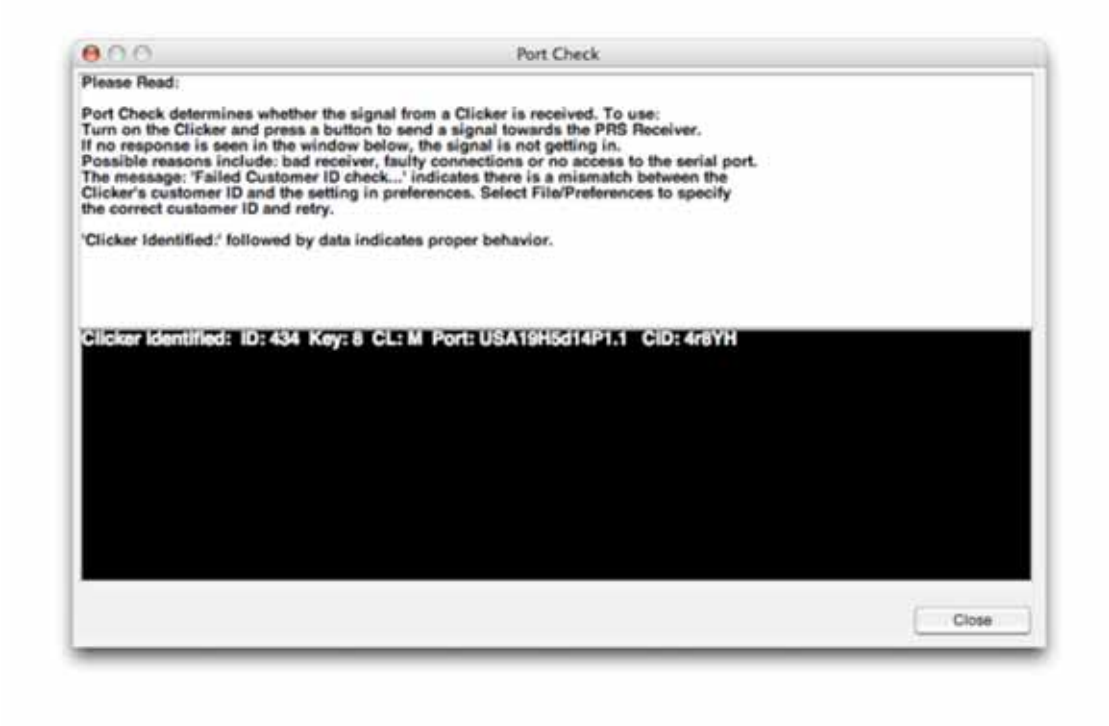
To switch the handset on and off press the button with red circle on it. A green light should be on. If the green light does not come on, get another handset. To use the handset choose the number you would like to vote for and press it whilst pointing the handset at the sensor. The sensor box red lights will flash when receiving a vote. Each handset has a unique number on the back and this number will appear onscreen once a vote has been successful.

5 Using the system

Make sure all cables are connected and the AC adaptor is switched on. You can now start up the PRS software. You will need to go into preferences and enter the customer id number.

4r8YH

You will now need to check the port connection to ensure that the hardware is connected properly. Choose connection from the menu and choose your connection type USB/serial (as this differs from computer to computer it is recommended that you select all that are available). Choose connection from the menu and this time choose Port check. A black box will appear. Aim a switched on handset at the sensor and press one of the number keys. If the equipment is working correctly " info" will appear. Close the port check screen.


Port Check
Please Read:
Port Check determines whether the signal from a Clicker is received. To use:
Turn on the Clicker and press a button to send a signal towards the PRS Receiver.
If no response is seen in the window below, the signal is not getting in.
Possible reasons include: bad receiver, faulty connections or no access to the serial port.
The message: 'Failed Customer ID check...' indicates there is a mismatch between the
Clicker's customer ID and the setting in preferences. Select File/Preferences to specify
the correct customer ID and retry.
'Clicker Identified:' followed by data indicates proper behavior.
Clicker Identified: ID: 434 Key: 8 CL: M Port: USA19H5d14P1.1 CID: 4r8YH
Close

If this does not happen check the following

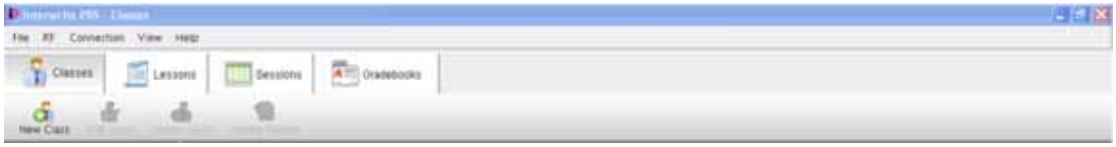
All cables and leads are properly connected.

You have entered the customer id correctly in the preferences window.

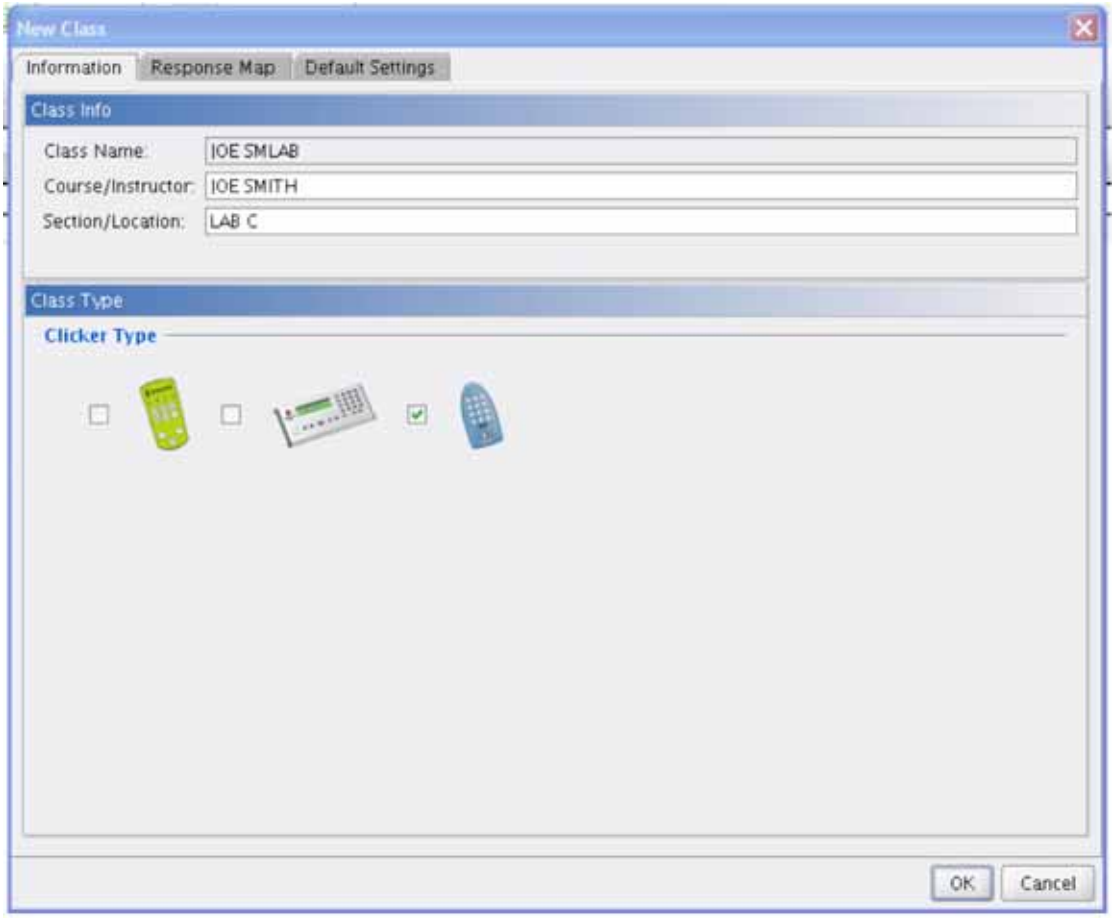
Starting a new class and opening a session

You need to set up a separate class for each tutorial/lecture group that you want to use the PRS software with. Into these classes the data from each time you use the PRS system with the individual groups will be recorded (sessions).

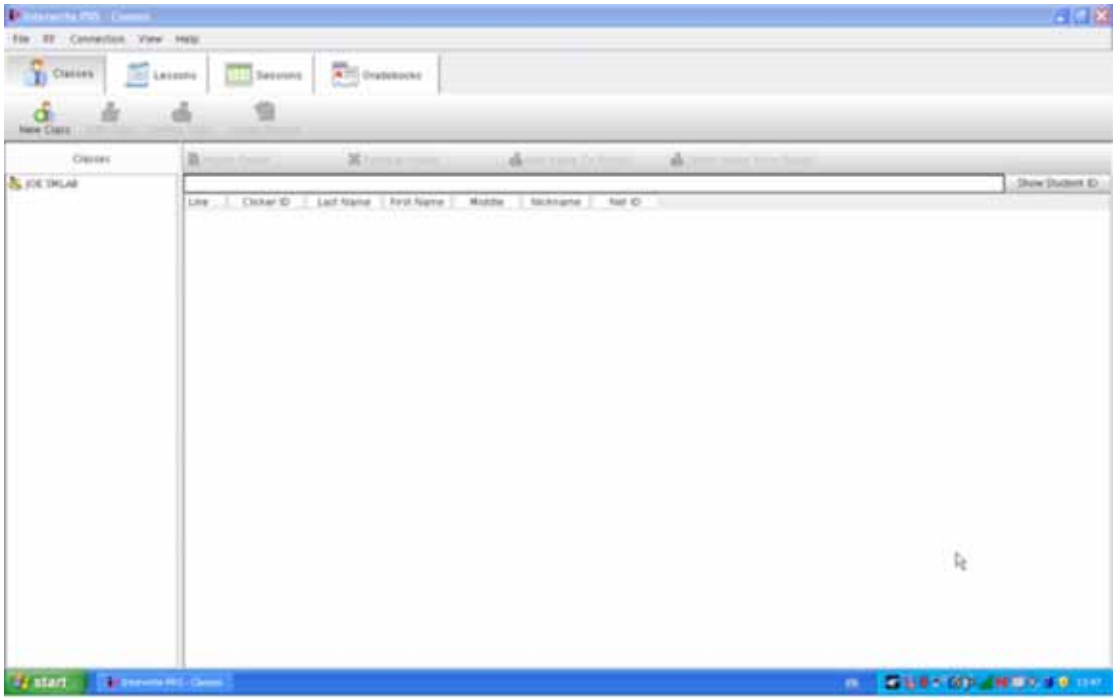
To start a new class choose classes from the toolbar. Then choose the option add class.



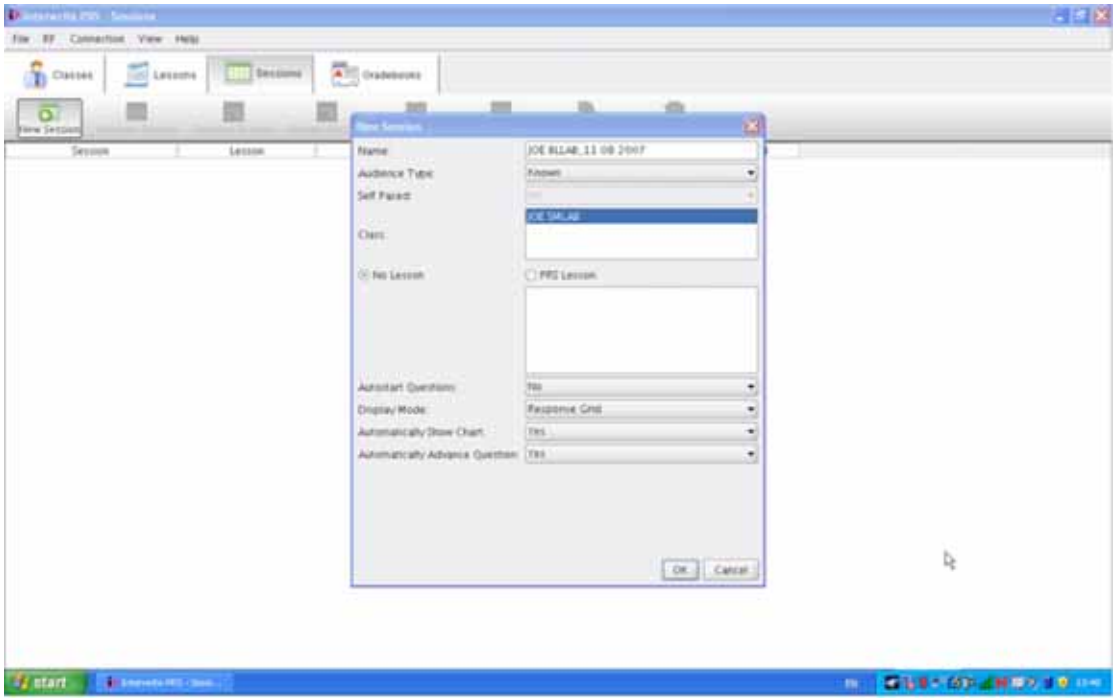
The following pop box will meet you.



Fill in the instructor name, location and choose the type of handset that you will be using. Click OK.

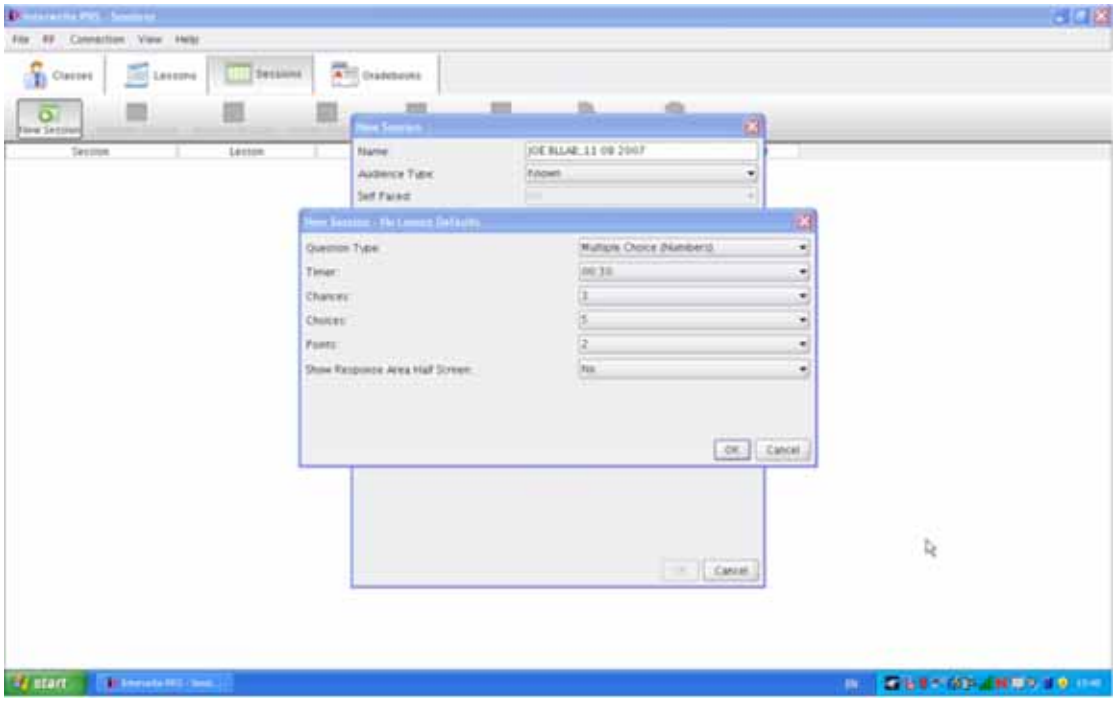


Your class is now added.
You will need to start a new session for every time that you use this particular class.
To start a new session choose session by choosing the “Session” option in the toolbar.
On the resultant page choose “New session”.

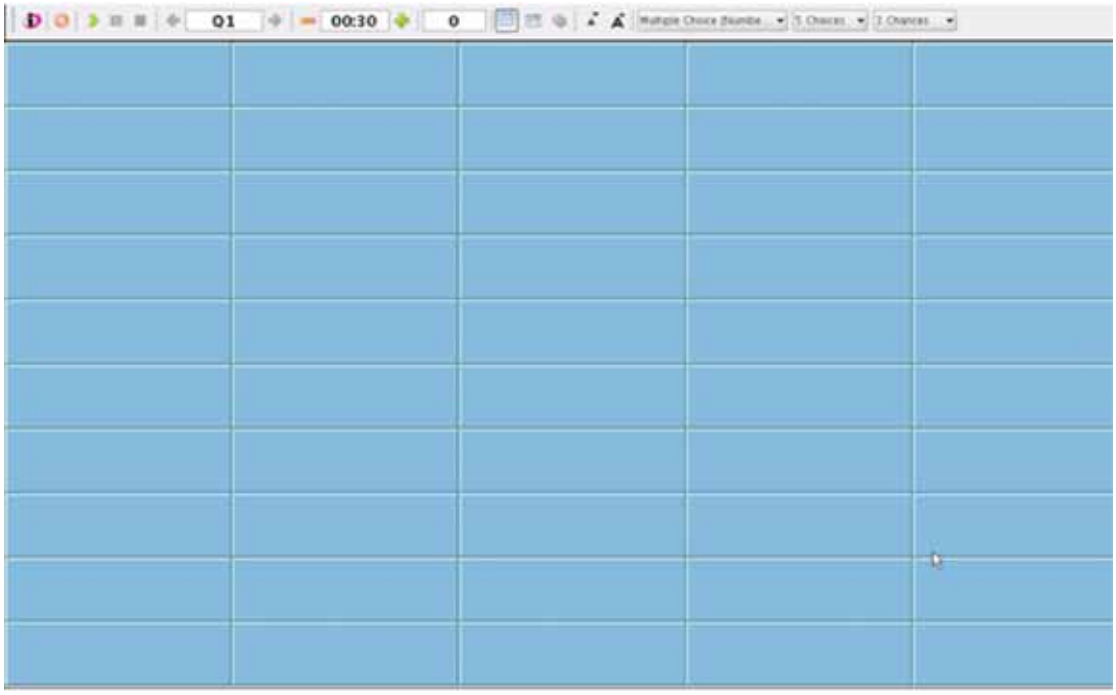


Give the session a name. Set audience to anonymous and autostart questions to no. In display mode choose response grid as this will let voters see if they have successfully voted or not. Make sure automatically show chart is set to yes and automatically advance question set to yes.

The next screen allows you to allocate how often students are allowed to answer a question and if they are allowed to change their answer. The most commonly used question type is Multiple choice (numbers).

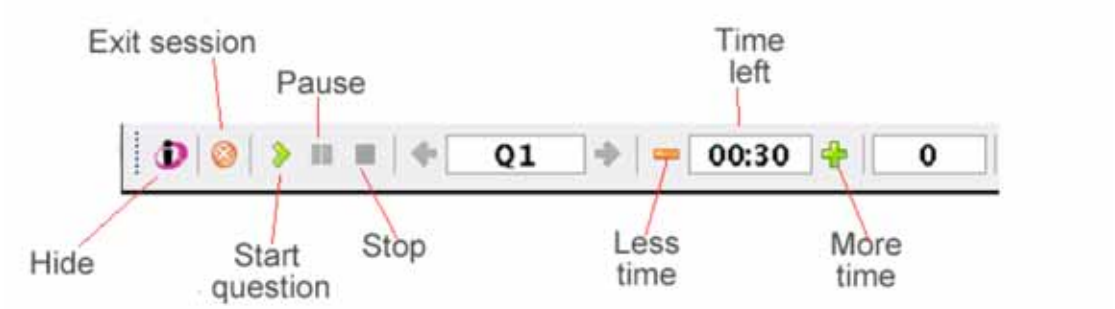


Once you have followed these steps the next screen that appears is your first question screen.



Voting

You will notice that there is a control toolbar at the top of the voting screen.



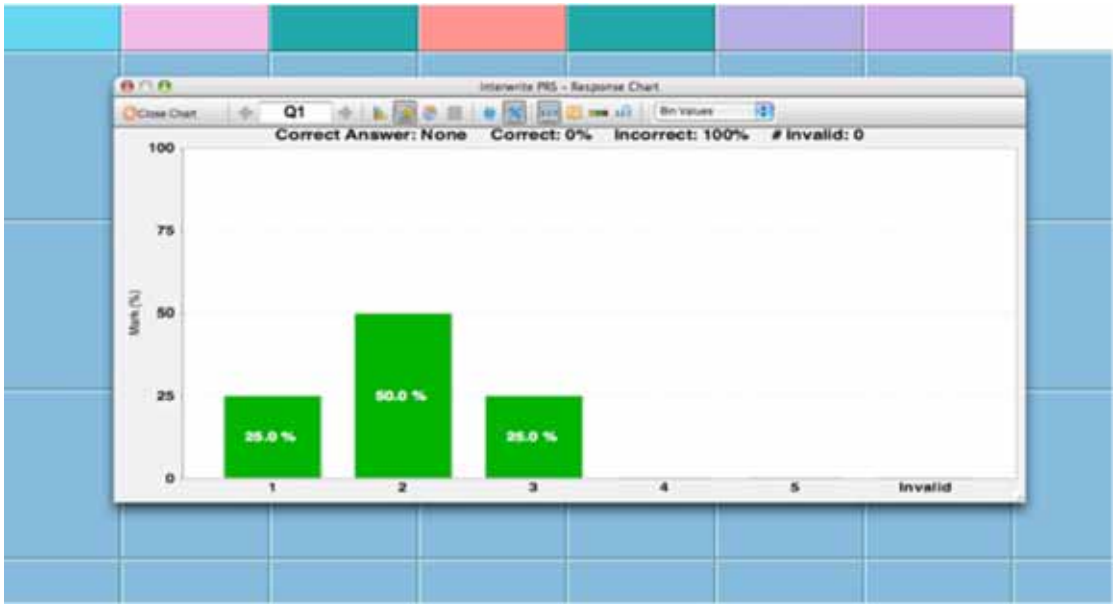
To start a vote press the green start (start question) control. If you want to increase or decrease the amount of time available for the vote use the minus and plus buttons. If you use the stop button this will automatically finish the vote and display the result.

Registering a vote

When a choice is made that handsets number is displayed on the blue grid. This lets the voter know that their choice has been successfully registered.

Results page

Once the allocated voting time is finished the results are displayed in a bar chart.



Closing the chart box will advance you to the next vote screen. Once you have finished close the software, switch off and disconnect hardware then pack in the appropriate bags/boxes.